

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

State approves full-time in-person learning

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Under the direction of the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Chicopee Public Schools will soon transition to full-time in-person learning. For the remainder of the school year, however, students still have the option to learn remotely.

"This is a regulatory change. This is more than just guidance," said Superintendent

Lynn Clark during the March 17 meeting of the school committee. "This was really due to the improvements of the COVID-19 health metrics across the state, implementation of mitigation strategies and the weekly testing being up and running."

On March 23, the number of active COVID-19 cases in Chicopee was down to 123.

DESE will require all schools to use a full-time in-person learning model for instructional hours to count to-

wards structured learning time. The state's instructions are legally binding; any district that doesn't comply beginning on April 5 will have to make up structured learning hours.

In Chicopee, students in kindergarten through Grade 5 will transition to full-time, in-person learning beginning on April 5. Middle school students will return on April 28, and the high schools will follow shortly after.

Chicopee began testing its students for COVID-19 on

March 22. Outside test-takers will visit Chicopee's schools to test elementary students every other week and middle and high school students on a weekly basis.

"The difference in that is due to the transmission. As we know, as students get older, the transmission is higher than we typically see at the elementary level," said Clark.

Recently, 300 doctors in the Commonwealth signed a

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TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

[L to R] Communication and Special Projects Manager Bobbi Mabb confers with Mayor John Vieau at the podium on March 19.

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Generations of Polish-Americans have been fundamental to Chicopee's success. To honor Polish tradition, Mayor John Vieau proclaimed March 19 as Saint Joseph's Day, and a Polish flag was raised outside of City Hall.

Also known as the Feast of Saint Joseph, the Roman Catholic feast day commemorates the life of Saint Joseph, stepfather of Jesus and husband of Mary.

Eating pastries has become synonymous with the celebration, which dates back to the seventh-century and became prominent in the United States following the arrival of thousands of Polish immigrants in the 19th century.

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Registrar of Voters Janina Surdyka of Poland, raises a Polish flag in the center of Chicopee last Friday.

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IN THE CITY

'You'll join this family': City plans two Civil Service Exam info. sessions

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Excitement is growing throughout Chicopee in anticipation of the April 20 Massachusetts Police Civil Service Examination. The city's next class of law enforcement professionals is waiting at the gates, ready to capitalize on an opportunity to join the force.

To garner public interest in the prospects of joining the Chicopee Police Department, two informational sessions will be held at the Public Safety Complex on Church Street on April 10. One can register to attend at chicopeema.gov/jobs.

"You'll join this family, and that's what it is," said Mayor John Vieau. "You join this paramilitary group of professionals that focus on keeping not only themselves safe but our community, knowing that Chicopee, with the current administration, is going to give you every tool you need to keep you safe while you do your job."

Passing the Civil Service Exam is the first step that must be completed to become a police officer in the Commonwealth. The police department is collaborating with the Human Resources Department, as both parties are coordinating the April 3 career fair.

Nationally, a decline has been observed in the amount of individuals interested in joining the profession of law enforcement. Events that have transpired over the past year in the United States may have created a stigma around law enforcement.



PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Two informational sessions scheduled for April 10 at the Public Safety Complex on Church Street will be made available for individuals who pre-register and are interested in taking the Civil Service Exam.

Bobbi Mabb, Vieau's Communication & Special Projects Manager, noted that the Chicopee department prioritizes transparency. She urged all interested parties to reserve a spot to participate in one of the two 90-minute sessions that will occur on the morning of the April 10.

"We really want Chicopee residents to step up; we want to have a really good pool of good candidates to pull from," said Mabb. "They'll do a detailed demo of everything, from what happens behind the scenes to getting to see how you get from point A to point B and being able to have

conversations with people that have actually done [the exam] and been through the process."

While the minimum age to become a Chicopee Police Officer is 21-years-old, 19 and 20-year-olds are encouraged to take the test, enter the fold and be put on a list.

"You can at least get started, take the test a few times and improve your score. Everyone knows the nerves go away after you've already seen it," said Mabb.

Vieau takes great pride in keeping Chicopee a safe place to work and live in. Even if a city has the best services, schools

and technology, if it isn't safe, Vieau believes it isn't adequate.

"I often say that if you don't feel comfortable where you put your head down at night, what's the point of everything else," said Vieau.

Vieau is optimistic that Chicopee's youngest generation of residents will meet the challenge head on and consider taking the test to explore their career options. No immediate commitment is needed, but putting one foot through the door could grant access to a world of new possibilities.

The April 10 initiative will offer attendees a full-scale tour of the recently renovated Public Safety Complex, interaction with officers and training tutorials.

A Criminal Justice degree is not required to take the Civil Service Exam; all that is needed is an open mind. For residents who are unhappy with the direction of law enforcement in the United States, taking the exam is taking a step in the direction of mending the problem.

"Don't be part of the problem. Be part of the solution, and that's, ultimately, the goal here. Get involved. If you want to make Chicopee a great place to live, be a part of it. It can be small or large or whatever you think you can commit to," said Vieau.

To attend the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. information session on April 10, one must reserve a spot by 11:59 p.m. on April 2. More information can be found at mass.gov/orgs/civil-service.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dz-bierski@turley.com.

Eight Chicopee teachers receive the 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award

CHICOPEE – Even though the pandemic has upended so much, thanks to the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation in partnership with the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation, exceptional teachers will again be honored across Pioneer Valley.

This year, Allyson Ramondetta, Jamie Morgado, Dawn Amell, Joaquin Bello, Julie Boucher, Shaina Merrick, Amy White, and Ericka Blais were selected as the 2021 Excellence in Teaching Award Winners.

They will be at a Virtual Celebration for Excellence in Teaching Award Winners on May 11. The program features the presentation of the individual awards. Winners will receive an engraved plaque and a check for \$250.

In addition, seven area colleges and universities offer graduate course tuition incentives and scholarships to the winners: Elms College, Bay Path University, Mount Holyoke College, Springfield College, Western New England University, Westfield State University, and the University of Massachusetts.

Winners also receive membership at NEPM Springfield as well as three-

month memberships at the Springfield Jewish Community Center, the Springfield YMCA and five regional YMCAs, and other gifts.

All 2021 winners have an exciting opportunity to apply for the selective Classroom Innovator Prize of \$250 by submitting a project-based learning idea. To provide valuable information about project-based learning especially in a distance learning environment, NEPM (New England Public Media) Springfield and GBH Boston will offer a free webinar on April 1st at 7:00 pm and make available thousands of PBS Learning Media Resources. Up to 30 projects will be selected for the Classroom Innovator Prize.

The Excellence in Teaching Awards

program is made possible by the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation in partnership with the Irene E. & George A. Davis Foundation.

"Today more than ever, when educators throughout Western Massachusetts have risen to the challenges of the pandemic and carry an awesome responsibility," said philanthropist Harold Grinspoon. "We feel grateful to all of them and privileged to honor teachers who continuously make outstanding contributions to their schools and their students."

Other business and community support comes from Arrha Credit Union, Country Bank, Meyers Brothers Kalicka, Monson Savings Bank, and American International College.

Massachusetts REAL ID and standard ID card presentation

CHICOPEE – A representative from The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles will be on Zoom to discuss the changes coming regarding MA I.D.'s and driver's licenses. This Zoom presentation will take place on Friday, April 9 at 10:30 a.m.

Community Outreach representative Michele Ellicks of MassDOT and The Registry of Motor Vehicles will be discussing the changes in MA I.D.'s and drivers licenses and will answer questions and educate participants on the new requirements for obtaining a driv-

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Chicopee in photos



PHOTO PROVIDED BY LT. KATIE KALBAUGH
The city of Chicopee recently received a new \$1.2 million ladder truck, Ladder 5, which has been labeled "The Beast." Its KME ladder extends 101 feet into the sky. The truck will be stationed at Station 5 on Chicopee Street and is replacing a vehicle that had served the city since 2005.



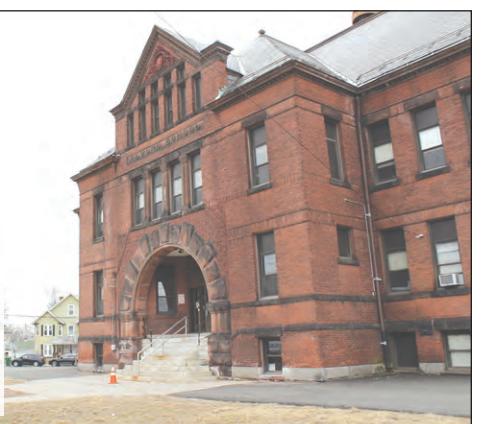
PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI
Chris Saunders works high atop the city of Chicopee, as he helps install the new clockwork on City Hall. Don't look down!



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOHNNY MIRANDA
Cultural Council Chair Johnny Miranda poses with an artist named Chaunacey during an edition of ChicopeeTV's Spotlight on the Arts.



PHOTOS BY DALTON ZBIERSKI
Times are busy at the Helen A. O'Connell Administration Offices at 180 Broadway St., as Chicopee students pivot back to full-time in-person learning.



The La Diaspora team consists of Damian Moreno, Jeannette Rivera, Lydia Freytes and Johnny Miranda.



Johnny Miranda, a prominent Chicopee artist, is launching a venture titled "La Diáspora" to make more space available for Chicopee artists.



Food Services Director Melanie Wilk poses with her pup Freddie, the official mascot of the Chicopee Food Services Department



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FARM-TO-SCHOOL COORDINATOR GRETA SCHWACHMAN
On a daily basis, Cindy Boyer, Melanie Wilk and Sherry Jones display their passion for eliminating food insecurity in the city of Chicopee.

'Mindful Eating Practices' presentation, April 21

CHICOPEE — The Council on Aging will host the Zoom presentation "Mindful Eating Practices" on Wednesday, April 21 at 11 a.m.

This workshop, presented by Ascentria Care Alliance, will help participants learn about mindful eating practices, reviewing some well-known approaches to mindful eating, how they differ from the standard "dieting" approach to weight loss and how to incorporate some of these practices into your daily routine. To register, visit RiverMills Centers Facebook page or call 413-534-3698.

Amvets Post 12 weekly dinner specials open to the public in April

CHICOPEE — Amvets Post 12, located at 754 Montgomery St. in Chicopee, is hosting weekly dinner specials which are open to the public from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

The menu is as follows:
April 1 — Prime rib dinner, \$15
April 8 — Spaghetti dinner, \$7
April 15 — Roast sirloin of beef

dinner, \$12
April 22 — Roast chicken dinner, \$10

April 29 — No dinner
Contact 413-315-8581 for tickets or menu of the week.

Weekly dinners will continue in May as well; menu TBD.

'Red Cross Ready for Seniors' Zoom presentation

CHICOPEE — The Council on Aging will offer the program "Red Cross Ready for Seniors" via Zoom on Wednesday, April 7, at 11 a.m.

Representatives from the American Red Cross of Massachusetts will be on Zoom to present this

program which focuses on disaster preparedness and safety. Participants must register in advance by using the registration link provided on RiverMills Centers Facebook event page or by calling 413-534-3698.

GSSI offers assistance with COVID vaccine registration

REGION — Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc. (GSSI) is now assisting older adults with registering for the COVID-19 vaccine through the online registration portals.

Interested parties can call GSSI at (413) 781-8800 (Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to be connected to a highly trained, bilingual team of dedicated Information and Referral Specialists. Staff are ready to assist with online sign-ups and are available to answer any questions.

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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Fun with houseplants

Just about a month ago I decided to re-pot a number of my "houseplants." I figured the timing was good, since before too long the plants would be responding to longer days with increased growth. They would relish new soil and more room for their roots to sprawl in the bigger pots I would provide. While I have never really felt that my outdoor "green thumb" has transferred to indoor plants, I've managed not to kill enough of them so that one morning of February vacation was spent with my hands in potting soil liberating them from a fate of being root bound in the same tired soil.

One of my favorite houseplants is the Gerber daisy. Most people think of this plant as a summer annual, and it technically is here in the northeast, but frugal Yankees (i.e. Mom and I) have been keeping them alive through the winter for years now. Its pretty pastel daisy-type flowers remind me of those the prankster clowns use to squirt water in the faces of unsuspecting folks. In our house we call it the "happy plant." I had three good-sized pots of them, all with tired soil. It showed by how yellow-green the leaves were. I moistened my compost-based Coast of Maine potting soil and proceeded to pry the plants apart, giving the divisions a fresh pot and a splash of liquid fertilizer once back on the windowsill. I am happy to say I now have one flower and a few others awaiting in the crown! Success!

Three other plants typically grown as annuals were saved from winter's chill and brought indoors as an experiment. One was a lobelia plant that grew in a ceramic pot by my front door all summer. Usually lobelias peter out during the dog days, but this newer variety kept right on blooming right through the heat. For the fun of it, I cut it back in late October and put it, pot and all in my mud room. Lo and behold, it started to grow. I provided it with light, some fresh soil and said liquid fertilizer, and it is actually sporting a few blossoms right now. I am only hoping it will be happy indoors for several more weeks; thankfully lobelias are fairly cold hardy so I can probably get it outside earlier than most flowering plants.

Another annual I overwintered is heliotrope. Given to me as a gift last summer, its purple, vanilla-baby powder scented flowers provided a olfactory pick-me-up whenever needed. Admittedly, this plant struggled over the winter but with fresh soil and a brighter window it is thriving once more. The same goes for a coleus that I got from a my friend Jean a year and a half ago. I decided take cuttings of all three to increase my coffers and happily both the coleus and the lobelia have rooted. It's been tricky to keep the almost fury heliotrope leaves from wilting while awaiting roots. More research necessary there.

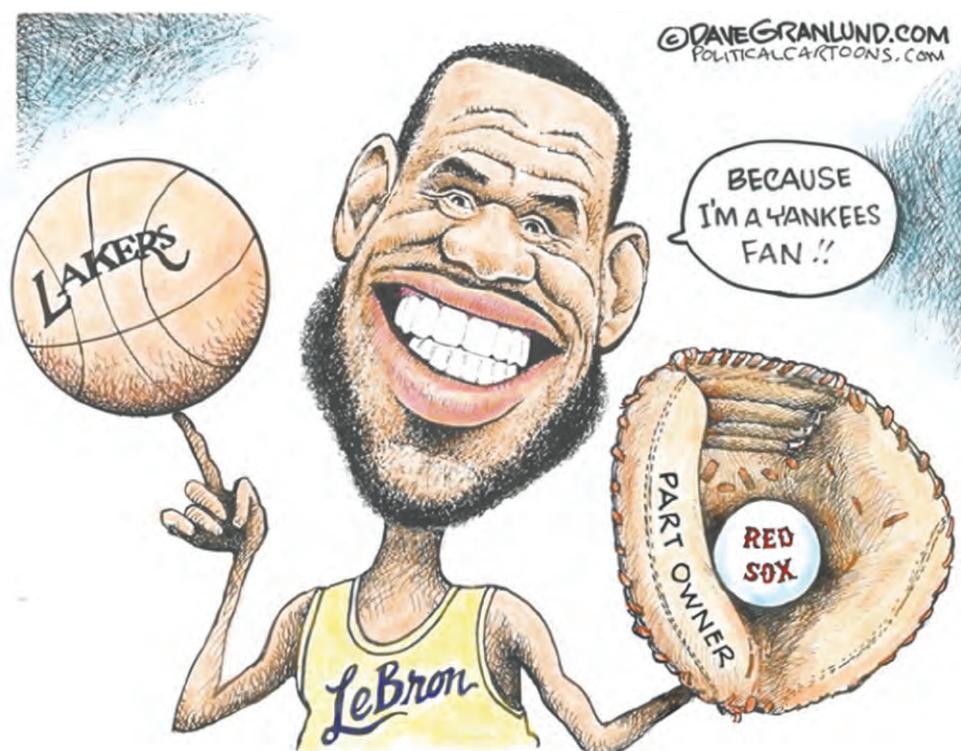
Late last spring I made a mixed planter with succulent type plants for my porch. I used what I had, including two tiny kalanchoe plants rescued from where I don't recall. They looked so pathetic that I planted them almost in the same hole to make one decent-sized plant. But alas, in just three months of good soil and a warm porch they tripled in size and by February were full of aphids. After a soapy bath they were separated, each given their own pot. Now, one has flower buds! I have read that kalanchoes are easy to propagate. Simply take a cutting of terminal growth two to three inches long, stripping off all but the top 2 or 3 leaves. Allow the stem to callus and then insert into a free-draining type of potting soil, one comprised of peat moss and perlite is ideal. Begin checking for roots in about a month.

See **GARDEN** page 5



IN THE GARDEN

Roberta McQuaid
Columnist



SOCIAL SECURITY MATTERS

Should I put in for Social Security now, or at 70?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I'm currently 67-years-old and still working full time. I took a big financial hit in 2008, which is why I'm still working, and I expect to continue working until I'm 70. My question is: should I take Social Security now, bank it until I'm 70, and then pay it out to myself upon retirement? Or would it be better to hold off until I'm 70 to claim? Longevity of about 85 seems to run in my family. Signed: Working Senior

Dear Working Senior: I'm afraid there's no simple answer to your question, but I'll give you some points to ponder.

If you don't need the money right now, and you expect to enjoy at least average longevity (about 85 for a man your current age), then waiting until you're 70 will give you the maximum monthly benefit and the most in cumulative lifetime Social Security benefits if you meet average longevity. And if you live beyond the average, your cumulative lifetime benefits will be correspondingly more. Since you've already delayed past your full retirement age of 66, you are already earning delayed retirement credits (DRCs) at the rate of 8% for each full year you delay (the maximum Social Security benefit is reached at age 70).

Can you do better than an 8% annual increase by claiming now and saving or investing the money? That would be the main point to evaluate, and only you know your investment options. But you should also consider that if you should die before your wife and she

has reached her full retirement age, your wife will get 100% of the benefit you are receiving at your death. If you claim earlier (e.g., now), your wife will get that earlier smaller amount as your widow. Compare that to what she'll get by you waiting until age 70 to claim, when your benefit will be about 24% more than it is now. Again, something for you to consider.

If you claim at age 70 you will have collected about the same amount of money at age 82 as if you had claimed now. That is your "breakeven" point, which is where your expected longevity comes into play. If you think you will beat the average and you do, you'll collect much more in total lifetime Social Security benefits by waiting until you are 70 to claim. Of course, no one knows how long they will live, but if your family history suggests a long life and you're in good health now, delaying is usually a prudent choice. That is, however, a decision only you can make.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor at AMAC.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, per-

sonal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Send letters to: *The Chicopee Register*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email chicopeeregister@turley.com.

The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

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The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to chicopeeregister@turley.com or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Chicopee Register

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District secures funding for food truck

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Come summer, a city-owned food truck will be available to serve local youths. On March 17, the Chicopee School Committee approved a \$130,693 purchase of a food truck for the Food Services Department.

The motion passed through the committee unanimously. Funding for the purchase has been made available by the Food Security Infrastructure Grant, which was awarded to the school district.

"The food truck is a food truck; it's not going to be another refrigerated box truck. It's going to be a truck for serving meals out of," said Melanie Wilk, director of district Food Services. "We will have a griddle on there and warmers. Most of the meals we'll still prepare in the school kitchens and then pack onto the truck to

then take out and serve to the community."

Superintendent Lynn Clark complimented Wilk and her colleagues for securing the funding, noting that "it was a surprise."

The truck will be a valuable asset to the school district for field days and field trips, as well as for the city at events such as National Night Out, an annual community initiative that connects residents with local law enforcement personnel, said Wilk.

Wilk and her team applied for the grant in an effort to increase food accessibility for the entire community. Wilk and Farm-to-School Coordinator Greta Shwachman have been discussing the prospects of attaining a food truck for several years.

"We saw this grant and knew the money was available, so we went for it," said Wilk. "We were shocked and elated

that we did get it. It's definitely about increasing food security across our community."

Mayor John Vieau credited the department for discovering and capitalizing on the funding opportunity. He also appreciated the fact that the food truck will be used to bring nutritious food to community events.

"Thank you, first of all, for applying for that grant, and secondly, for receiving it," said Vieau. "We're excited [about] the food security part for the school district, but your immediate commitment to National Night Out is what I really appreciated when you just shared that with us."

School committee representatives also expressed enthusiasm regarding the food truck. Ward 9 Representative Mary Beth Costello considers the purchase to be a home run.

"I want to thank Melanie for this ap-

proach to address food insecurity in the city of Chicopee. This is a very creative approach and it makes sense," said Costello. "I can't thank you enough in a time where food insecurity is a major problem, not only in Chicopee but nationwide, that you have addressed this with creativity."

At-large representative Doug Girouard praised Wilk for how well she's followed in the footsteps of her predecessor to the position, Joanne Lennon. He also thanked members of the department for persevering through the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Certainly, your staff and the work you guys are doing over there is tremendous. The kids need this to start their day and try to learn properly, and you're doing a great job, so keep up the good work. Thank you," said Girouard.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

STATE APPROVES from page 1

statement in support of full-time, in-person learning and a social distancing minimum of three feet between mask-wearing students.

Clark said that data collected from Massachusetts school districts, ranging from September through Jan. 27, "shows that there's no substantial difference in cases among students and staff with three-feet versus six-feet distancing since schools reopened. There have been schools across the state that have been open with three feet; other districts have opened with six feet."

Clark explained that the district has been committed to six feet of social distancing, but the trend cannot continue due to space available in each school building as they near capacity.

Different grades in the various elementary schools will have different social distancing minimums to follow. The social distancing minimum in one class might be three feet, in another it could be four-and-a-half feet, while in others it could remain at six feet.

Six feet of social distancing will still be required when students are eating. Students of all ages must wear masks, as is now mandated by DESE.

In the fall, a district-wide remote learning option will no longer be required by DESE, which will support a robust summer learning program. Clark has her sights set on the coming months.

"This spring, they're going to come out with some prom, field trip and graduation guidance. We should get that within the next week," she said.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

POLISH HERITAGE from page 1

Students and staff members from St. Stanislaus School traveled up Front St. to participate in the ceremony last Friday. Numerous local and state elected officials were also on-hand.

"I'm very proud to be here today to celebrate St. Joseph's Day with my colleagues from the legislature, Mayor Vieau, members of the City Council and other elected officials. Thank you to all of you St. Stanislaus students for being here today and carrying on this Polish tradition," said State Rep. Jacob Oliveira of the 7th Hampden District.

Oliveira added that he looked forward to eating, "all of the Polish delicacies."

Vieau said that he associates his Polish heritage directly with the city of Chicopee. He read a proclamation that credited Polish-Americans for enriching Chicopee's culture, contributing to facets of life including the sciences, government affairs, business and education.

"We're all proud Polish people today," said Vieau, asking residents not to be confused by his French last name. "This is a very important day for me, being of Polish descent. Proudly representing the city of Chicopee as Mayor is something that I could only have dreamed about, but now it's a reality. I'm very thankful to be here and serve our city, especially through this time of uncertainty."

Acknowledging the cold temperature that morning, Vieau said he is optimistic that next year the feast day can be celebrated during a ceremony held inside of the newly renovated City Hall Auditorium.

Hampden County Registrar of Deeds Cheryl Coakley-Rivera attended the gathering last Friday. She recalled the Golumpki that her grandmother Helen always made her.

"Without the Polish heritage of Polish-Americans, this country wouldn't be where it is today," said Coakley-Rivera. "As we celebrate the Polish heritage and



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI
A group of city and state elected officials joined residents of Polish decent on March 19 during a brief ceremony in front of City Hall.



On the morning of March 19, the city of Chicopee celebrated Polish heritage. Students and staff members from St. Stanislaus School joined in the festivity.

St. Joseph's Day, I also would be remiss if we didn't mention the contributions that you all have made to this great country and this great city from economics to education to politics, sports and it goes on and on."

Janina Surdyka, Chicopee's Registrar of Voters, was called upon to raise the Polish flag. Surdyka emigrated from

Poland to the United States, where she has since become a well-respected employee in the city of Chicopee.

Due to the acts of violence that claimed eight lives in the Atlanta metropolitan area on March 16, President Joe Biden proclaimed that all American flags should be at half-mast; Governor Charlie Baker issued the same proclamation regarding the state flag.

In respect to the victims of the Atlanta shootings, the Polish flag was also raised to half-mast.

The March 19 celebration was broadcast by ChicopeeTV and is available for viewing on its Facebook page.

Also at last Friday's ceremony were City Councilors George Balakier and Gerry Roy, Deputy Police Chief Lonnie Dakin, State Sen. Adam Gomez of the Hampden District, City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, City Collector Stanley Iwanicki and Appoint Assessor Brian Suchy.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.



State Sen. Adam Gomez addresses a group of constituents on March 19.

Send your stories and photos to elinscott@turley.com

SENIORS

Zoom Meditation with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Meditation with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 12 p.m.

Are you feeling stressed? Do you want to learn how to relax? Join us for Meditation on Zoom. This class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT. This is an online class. The Zoom link will be shared on

RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Gentle exercise with Ryan via Zoom

CHICOPEE- The Council on Aging offers “Gentle Exercise with Ryan” Via Zoom, Mondays and Fridays at 12 p.m.

This class focuses on functional movement & fun. This is an online class. Join Ryan every Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. The Zoom link is shared on Riv-

erMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please contact RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be emailed to you. Please save the Zoom link as that is the link you will use each class.

Zoom Tai Chi with Michelle

CHICOPEE – The Council on Aging offers “Tai Chi with Michelle” Via Zoom, Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Experience the many slow and gentle benefits of Tai Chi Fit/Qigong. The class is led by Michelle Zemba LMT, Certified in Tai Chi/Qigong. This is an online class. The Zoom link will

be shared on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page. If you do not have Facebook, please call RiverMills Center at (413) 534-3698 to provide your email address for the Zoom link to be sent to you. Please save the link as this will be the link you will use for each class.

Tuesday yoga at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Council on Aging will be offering Zoom Yoga on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Caitlin Lavin, Certified Yoga In-

structor, will be leading classes. These classes are free and the Zoom links are available on RiverMills Center’s Facebook page or by calling (413) 534-3698.

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FACES & PLACES

Local student makes Regis College Dean's List

WESTON, Mass. – Regis College is pleased to announce that 540 students made the Dean’s List for academic achievement for the 2020 fall semester.

Skylar Craig of Chicopee is among the students who made the Dean’s List. Craig is in the class of 2022.

To be eligible for the Dean’s List as a senior, junior or sophomore at Regis, a student must have a semester grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.50. For first-

year students, a semester GPA of at least 3.25 must be attained.

“I am very pleased to see so many of our students excelling across the university,” said Regis College Vice President of Academic Affairs Mary Erina Driscoll. “The Dean’s List and the diversity of academic disciplines speak to a dedicated student body and to a faculty that promotes intellectual curiosity and achievement.”

Beta Zeta at large chapter will host virtual Scholarship Day

REGION – The Beta Zeta at large chapter of the nursing honor society, Sigma Theta Tau International will present a virtual Scholarship Day 2021 on Wednesday, April 7.

The chapter includes members from the nursing programs at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, American International College, Elms College, and Westfield State University. Dr. Betty Rambur, PhD, RN, FAAAN is the keynote speaker and her topic is “Health Care Reform: Rhetoric and Realities of the 2020 Election in an Era of COVID-19.”

Dr. Rambour is a professor and Rothier Endowed Chair for Practice at the University of Rhode Island and has been a national and impactful leader in health policy and health reform for 25 years.

Opening remarks will be done by Mary Ellen Burke, President of Beta Zeta

at large chapter at 8:15 a.m. The keynote address will be from 8:30-10 a.m. There will be poster presentations in the break out rooms and podium presentations after the keynote address.

Registration is free this year and register on the Beta Zeta at large website: <http://betazeta.nursingsociety.org>

Since 2010, a collection of food items at registration for the Margaret’s Pantry, Providence Ministries in Holyoke has been our community service project. This year, consider a monetary donation to the food bank at the Providence Ministries.

All members are invited to attend the Annual Chapter Meeting after Scholarship Day 2021.

The mission of Sigma is to develop nurse leaders anywhere to improve healthcare everywhere.

Scholarships from Chase, Clarke, Stewart & Fontana Insurance Agency

REGION – Chase, Clarke, Stewart & Fontana Insurance Agency, located in Springfield, is currently accepting applications for its 2021 ChaseIns & Ray Beattie Scholarship Awards. Two participat-

ing high school seniors will be awarded a \$1,000 each.

To view the scholarship requirements, visit www.chaseins.com. The deadline for recipients to apply is May 1.

CULTURAL COUNCIL from page 1

mans are social beings and Ufeed off of human interaction. When in-person socialization can be brought about safely, the council is all for it, especially if it supports a healthy cause.

The council recently completed its grant season and awarded 52 grants that will be divvied up among public entities and artists. Miranda is ecstatic to witness the aura of creativity that he believes will prevail in Chicopee this summer.

“Grantees have received their reward letters, and we are looking forward to all of the events that they will be producing throughout the year. Some of them will be in person, some will be streamed online,” said Miranda.

In March, the council celebrated Women’s History Month and Irish-Heritage Month. To commemorate Chicopee’s Polish heritage, Miranda interviewed the Chicopee Colleen Court on ChicopeeTV.

The council has developed a fruitful partnership with Chicopee’s public access television studio. On a monthly basis, the council will team up with ChicopeeTV to highlight an interesting facet of the arts in Chicopee.

“We just launched our ChicopeeTV show, called ‘Spotlight on the Arts.’ I’m hosting the show, and every month, we’re going to bring in different artists or different individuals in our community that are

of interest to the arts and that relate to the month’s theme,” said Miranda.

To honor Chicopee’s female population, Miranda teamed up with educator and activist Charles Laboy during a month-long vlogging initiative titled ‘100 Flowers for 100 Women.’

Community members nominated different women to be recognized, and footage of Miranda and Laboy’s ventures will be aired on ChicopeeTV on March 29.

“We’ve identified 100 powerful women in Chicopee and we’re going to go, with the sponsorship of the Cultural Council that has been gracious enough to buy the flowers for us, Charles and I are going to go around Chicopee vlogging while we hand out roses to these 100 women,” said Miranda.

Separate from the council, Miranda has launched his own undertaking, ‘La Diaspora.’ He described the space at 234 Exchange St. as offering local artists a platform to create.

“It’s going to be such a fun, collective, maker-space for people to come in and create and use materials to carve wood or play with clay or paint. We’re really looking forward to being able to contribute in that aspect to the revitalization of Chicopee Center,” said Miranda, adding that artists must enroll in a membership plan to access the space.

Dalton Zbierski can be reached at dzbierski@turley.com.

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Chicopee struggles in opener



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHTOTOS.COM

Jason Lozado attempts a pass on the run



Kevin Blanton attempts to tackle a Palmer ball carrier.



Jacob Montalvo tries to get through a block.



Steven Matta looks to gain yardage after making a catch.



Dezmen Martinez attempts a tackle.

Valley Wheel Baseball seeking new talent for 2021 season



Valley Wheel Baseball is ready to get started again. Tryouts were held last summer before the season ultimately had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

FILE PHOTO

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION — The regular season is just a month away and the members of the Valley Wheel Over-30 Baseball League are excited to be playing baseball again.

Last year, the season was cancelled once parks were closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

An attempt was made by commissioner Jim Nason to hold a short season once modified rules for activity were allowed, but there was not enough

interest to keep the league operating.

Now, the league is gearing for a full season, but between circumstances changing during the pandemic and the modifications currently in place for sports, the league is definitely in need of more baseball talent.

Nason is hoping “quarantine fatigue” and the need to get outdoors and get active will draw new players to tryouts when they start next weekend.

Tryouts for the league will take place Saturday, April 3, and

See VALLEY LEAGUE page 8

Purse structure announced for 2021 season

WATERBURY, VT and NAPLES, ME -- American-Canadian Tour (ACT) and Pro All Star Series (PASS) officials have announced the purse structure for the five weekly divisions set for competition at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park in 2021.

A total of nearly \$24,000 in posted awards have been set to be distributed to the Sunoco Modifieds, Late Models, SK Light Modifieds, Limited Sportsman, and Mini Stocks at each event. All five divisions will compete as part of the six-race oval track event schedule at Thompson, which begins with the annual Icebreaker on April 10 and 11. The schedule also includes four Wednesday night races in the summer (June 16, July 7, Aug.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Information has been released for racing purses for the 2021 season.

11 and Sept. 15) and the Sunoco World Series (Oct. 8 to 10).

“When Tom (Mayberry) and I agreed to take on this role at Thompson, one of our priorities was posting a fair purse for all divisions,” ACT managing partner Cris Michaud said. “I raced for 20+ years, and I experienced

firsthand the value of an extra dollar. We’ve put together a competitive structure that rewards everyone who shows up and will help teams get their cars to the track.”

The roar of the Sunoco

See RACING page 8

College conference moves forward with spring competition

WESTFIELD — The eight Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) Presidents announced today that they have approved a plan to have competition for the spring sports of baseball, men’s golf, women’s lacrosse, softball and men’s and women’s outdoor track and

field. The presidents have also approved the continuation of practice for fall and winter MASCAC teams subject to health and safety, testing and tracing protocols in place to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

“The MASCAC continues to meet regularly with the presi-

dents, athletic directors, athletic trainers and other essential staff as we bring our student-athletes back to the playing field, safely, while adhering to all state, federal and NCAA guidelines,” said MASCAC Commissioner Angela

See COLLEGE page 8

SPORTS

Hampshire association seeking umpires

REGION – The Hampshire Franklin Baseball Umpire Association (HFBUA) is planning to conduct classes for the 2021 baseball season following all recommended COVID-19 protocols including the possibility of on-line instruction. The association covers umpiring of scholastic baseball for all of Hampshire

and Franklin county schools registered under MIAA and several other baseball leagues in the area. If you are interested in umpiring baseball or obtaining further information regarding the upcoming classes please contact Roger Booth - Secretary/Treasurer of the HFBUA via email at quithunter@comcast.net.

Sign-ups now available for 2021 Relics softball

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Relics has opened registration for the 2021 Senior Softball Season. The Silver Division (age 50 to 64) has filled 36 of the 112 spots and the Gold Division (65-and-up) has filled 32 of the

96 spots. The registrations are accepted on a first come first serve basis. All our games are played at the Fish & Game in Ludlow. For further information or to register go to <http://www.westernmassrelics.org>.

VALLEY LEAGUE from page 7

the next two Sundays, April 11 and 18.

There are normally six teams in the league and the hope is to continue to have that tradition as players begin to make their way out to the fields. The normal Valley Wheel season is 15 games beginning April 25 this year and going until the end of July. The league plays nine-inning games, allowing all participants an opportunity to get plenty of at-bats and lots of time in the field.

The top four teams in the league make the playoffs and the semifinals and finals are held in the first two weeks of August. The schedule also features a couple of weeknights games and a special Mother's Day weekend Saturday game.

There are still modified rules for adult baseball under the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, which requires mask-wearing, social distancing

when possible, and no spitting among the habit baseball players are not allowed to engage in. While the game play is largely the same, the mask-wearing rule was one that was the subject of controversy last summer and ultimately led to the cancellation of the shortened season.

With vaccinations in Massachusetts clearing one million people and the state entering Phase 4 of the re-opening plan earlier this week, Nason is hopeful the restrictions will ease as the season goes on, especially as it relates to gathering.

Comradery is one of the staples of the league, which has usually included tailgating after games. That is a practice that will also have to be on hold until restrictions lift.

For more information on getting involved in adult baseball, go to www.valleywheelbaseball.com. To play in the league, you must be 28-years-old before June 1. In order to participate in the league

as a pitcher, you must be 30-years-old before June 1. Players can participate in at least one of the three tryouts dates, usually held at Blunt Park, and then a draft is held prior to the start of the season.

Tryouts are set to begin on April 3.
FILE PHOTO



COLLEGE from page 7

Baumann. "It is our intention to have these athletic events as long as the conditions allow us to move forward safely. The MASCAC office and eight MASCAC Presidents will be monitoring practices and competition to ensure the continued health and safety of our student-athletes and staff."

It will remain the decision of each member institution to determine if they can

safely participate in intercollegiate athletics this spring and in which sports they will permit competition. These decisions will be made in consultation with campus health professionals and the MASCAC Commissioner.

The presidents have approved a conference schedule where the institutions will play the same school each week in baseball, softball and women's lacrosse. In addition, the membership has approved a men's golf and

outdoor track and field championship. Additionally, the presidents have authorized institutions to schedule non-conference contests, provided all non-conference teams follow prescribed MASCAC health and safety guidance and protocols. Institutions will not be traveling to compete against teams out of state.

As the MASCAC teams continue to participate in athletic activities, it is the continued responsibility of all student-athletes and staff to stay diligent in their safety efforts on and off the field of play.

Individual member institutions reserve the right to halt competition if the health of the campus community is put at risk.

In the event of an increase of COVID-related cases on any of our campuses, the

consistency with state restrictions on gathering limits, spectators will not be permitted at MASCAC contests at this time. This policy may be revisited for outdoor sports if conditions improve and subject to state and local health authorities' guidance. For the enjoyment of family, friends and fans of our student-athletes, the MASCAC will continue to livestream contests on MASCAC.tv.

Throughout the 2020-21 academic year, the MASCAC will be celebrating its' 50th anniversary with special features, facts and trivia commemorating the event. Our conference has a rich history of success on the playing field and in the classroom. Over the academic year, the conference will be highlighting the student-athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators from the last 50 years.

OBITUARIES

Nancy E. Phillips

1943 – 2021

CHICOPEE

– Nancy E. (Dorn) Phillips, age 77, was called safely home, to be with the Lord, on March 15, 2021 from Mercy Medical Center. Nancy was born on April 10, 1943 in Springfield, a daughter of the late Walter H. and Elsie (Dame) Dorn. She worked as a secretary for many years, her most recent being at Kamp for Kids before she retired. Nancy would always put God and her family before herself. She loved to sing, for God, with her husband. She also enjoyed arts and crafts, and was an active parishioner of the Beulah Baptist Church in Chicopee where she was the secretary, taught Sunday school and was part of the Vacation Bible School. She is survived by her dear loving husband of 58 years, Millard E. Phillips of Chicopee;



2 daughters, Colleen Phillips of Chicopee and Heather Robitaille and her husband Norman of Chester; 3 sisters, Bev Gaulard and her husband Michel of Chicopee, Linda Roberts of FL and Theresa Harris of NC. She also leaves 8 grandchildren along with many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her sister Doris Kuenzel. All services will be private at a later date. The Grise Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements. For online condolences, please visit www.grisefh.com.

DEATH NOTICE

Phillips (Dorn), Nancy E.

Died: March 15, 2021

Funeral services are private

RACING from page 7

Modifieds will return to the high-banks with drivers chasing a \$1,500 winning prize for their 30-lap feature races. With \$900 on the line for second, \$600 for third and \$200 to start each race, the Sunoco Modified purse itself rises over \$8,500. Some of the top names in local Modified racing are expected to compete, including Keith Rocco, who looks to continue his dominance of the competitive class on Thompson's 0.625-mile oval. Other names expected for the opener include Troy Talman, a former Thompson winner.

The Late Models, which will again follow ACT Tour rules — including the addition of the new Hoosier tire — will chase \$1,200 to win. As part of a purse better than \$7,000 throughout the field, Late Model drivers will open the season with a 40-lap special at the Icebreaker. They will continue to thrill Thompson fans with some of the top competitors from across New England. Names like Woody Pitkat, who swept both races in 2020, along with Nick Johnson, defending ACT Tour Rookie of the Year Derek Gluchacki and more will be in competition.

The Limited Sportsman are set to return with a purse over \$3,000 of their own and \$350 on the line to win. Known as one of the most exciting divisions at Thompson each year, the Limited Sportsman keep fans on the edge of their seat with two, and often three-wide action

throughout the field.

Early entries for the season include former Thompson champions Kyle Gero and Larry Barnett, along with former Seekonk Speedway Sportsman champion Corey Fanning. At the Icebreaker, Limited Sportsman drivers may also take the opportunity to compete in a 8-Cylinder Open Street Stock open on Saturday, which pays \$1,000 to win.

Rising over \$3,000, the SK Light Modified purse includes another \$350 to win, with \$250 for second and a strong distribution of funds throughout the field. As a division that puts some of the youth of Modified racing and veterans together, it's expected to be another stout year.

The Mini Stock thunder will return to Thompson with feature races set for \$200 to win and over \$1,600 in presented awards. Early entries for the season include Thompson veterans Russ Barboza, Tommy Silva and former division champion Steve Michalski.

Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park opens its 82nd season of oval track racing with the Icebreaker on Saturday, April 10 and Sunday, April 11. The 10-division card includes the \$10,000-to-win Icebreaker 125 for the Thompson Outlaw Open Modified Series, the PASS Super Late Models, and five Thompson weekly divisions. The 8-Cylinder Street Stock Open, NEMA Lites, and EXIT Realty Pro Truck Challenge round out the card. An optional Test N' Tune practice day is slated for Friday, April 9 with all Icebreaker divisions welcome.

schedules may be adjusted, which might include stoppage of play.

"The presidents are excited to move forward with plans for spring sports competition," said Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts President James Birge, Chair of the MASCAC Council of Presidents. "As we plan for spring sports competition, we will continue to fine-tune protocols to ensure the safety of student-athletes, coaches, staff and the campus communities," said President Birge.

Consistent with state restrictions on gathering limits, spectators will not be permitted at MASCAC contests at this time. This policy may be revisited for outdoor sports if conditions improve and subject to state and local health authorities' guidance. For the enjoyment of family, friends and fans of our student-athletes, the MASCAC will continue to livestream contests on MASCAC.tv.

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Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by RIMOR Properties, LLC to Greenfield Cooperative Bank dated December 12, 2016 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 21485, Page 381, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 14th day of April, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 34 Beverly Street, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts situated on 34 Beverly Street with the building thereon and being known and designated as Lot #57 (fifty-seven) on plan of Chandler Slope recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans R, Page 86.

Said Lot #57 (fifty-seven) is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the Northerly line of Beverly Street at the Southwesterly corner of Lot #56 (fifty-six) on said plan, and running thence

NORTHEASTERLY along said Lot #56 (fifty-six), one hundred (100') feet to Lot #48 (forty-eight) on said plan; thence

NORTHWESTERLY along said Lot #48 (forty-eight), fifty (50') feet to Lot #58 (fifty-eight) on said plan; thence

SOUTHWESTERLY along said Lot #58 (fifty-eight), one hundred (100') feet to Beverly Street; and thence

SOUTHEASTERLY along said Beverly Street, fifty (50') feet to the place of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor herein by deed of Diane E. Adamson, Personal Representative of the Estate of Eva D. Daviau recorded simultaneously herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE:
TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

Hereby also conveying all of our right, title and interest, if any, in and to the parcel of land situated on the Easterly side of Chase Place and the Westerly side of the above described parcel and shown on a plan of Lots owned by Eleanor W. Hale, dated January 1910, filed at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book of Plans 2, Page 205.

BEING the same premises conveyed to the MORTGAGOR by deed of CJK Realty, LLC dated January 5, 2018 and recorded simultaneously herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE:
TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

OTHER TERMS, IF ANY, WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE SALE.
Greenfield Cooperative Bank, Present Holder of said Mortgage
By:
/s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein
Jonathan C. Sapirstein
SAPIRSTEIN &
SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1331 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 827-7500
Date: February 25, 2021
Its Attorneys
03/12, 03/19, 03/26/2021

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by RIMOR Properties, LLC to Greenfield Cooperative Bank dated January 5, 2018 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22016, Page 278, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **10:00 a.m. on the 14th day of April, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 389-391 Front Street, Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in Chicopee, with the buildings thereon, bounded and described as follows: Situated on the northerly side of Front Street. Beginning at the southeasterly corner of the land herein conveyed on said street and thence running

NORTHERLY on land formerly of William Ritter one hundred sixty and 82/100 (160.82) feet to land now or formerly of Sarah A. Woodworth; thence

WESTERLY on last named land on a line parallel to said Front Street seventy-nine (79) feet to land now or formerly of said Woodworth; thence

SOUTHERLY on last named land on a line parallel to the first mentioned line one hundred sixty and

82/100 (160.82) feet to said Front Street; and thence

EASTERLY on said street seventy-nine (79) feet to the point of beginning.

Hereby also conveying all of our right, title and interest, if any, in and to the parcel of land situated on the Easterly side of Chase Place and the Westerly side of the above described parcel and shown on a plan of Lots owned by Eleanor W. Hale, dated January 1910, filed at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book of Plans 2, Page 205.

BEING the same premises conveyed to the MORTGAGOR by deed of CJK Realty, LLC dated January 5, 2018 and recorded simultaneously herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE:
TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$10,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith at which time the purchaser shall also pay directly to the auctioneer a buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

OTHER TERMS, IF ANY, WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE SALE.
Greenfield Cooperative Bank, Present Holder of said Mortgage
By:
/s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein

Jonathan C. Sapirstein
SAPIRSTEIN &
SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.
1331 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 827-7500

Date: February 25, 2021
Its Attorneys
03/12, 03/19, 03/26/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758**

Docket No. HD21P0444EA

Estate of:
Irene V Desrosiers

Date of Death: 12/27/2020

**CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal
Probate of Will with
Appointment of Personal
Representative** has been filed

by **Mark B Desrosiers** of Columbia, CT requesting

that the Court enter a formal

Decree and Order and for

such other relief as requested

in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Mark B Desrosiers** of Columbia, CT be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without
Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/08/2021**.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Barbara
M Hyland, First Justice of
the Court.**

Date: March 11, 2021

Rosemary A Saccmani

Register of Probate

03/26/2021

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600**

Docket No. HD21P0471EA

Estate of:

Dorothy Mae Gwozdz

Date of Death:

01/31/2021

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Gregory S Gwozdz** of Chicopee, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Gregory S Gwozdz of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

tion is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Barbara
M Hyland, First Justice of
this Court.**

Date: March 18, 2021

Rosemary A Saccmani

Register of Probate

03/26/2021

INVITATION FOR BID

CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT

725 FRONT STREET,
CHICOPEE, MA 01020

BID NO. CEL 21-0491

ISSUE DATE:

MARCH 22, 2021

Sealed proposals are being accepted for: **SINGLE
PHASE AND THREE
PHASE PADMOUNT
TRANSFORMERS
(ANNUAL BID)**

BID OPENING DATE,
TIME AND LOCATION:
**APRIL 8, 2021 AT 11:00
A.M.** at Chicopee Electric Light, 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1778.

**BIDS WILL ONLY
BE ACCEPTED IN
DUPLICATE. PLEASE
READ AND COMPLY
WITH THE TERMS AND
CONDITIONS ENTITLED
1.0 PREPARATION OF
BIDS.**

Bid documents are available at the business office located at 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1778.

The Vendor/Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order No. 11375, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity" and of Chapter 164 Sec. 56D as amended, of the Massachusetts General Laws, both of which are herein incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

The Department reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Municipal Light Board, is in the best interest of the Municipal Lighting Plant.

Is your firm a: **MBE WBE** (please circle) MBE/WBE firms must be currently certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Please submit Bids in duplicate clearly marked with the Bid Number and Title:

**BID NUMBER: CEL
21-0491**

**TITLE: SINGLE
PHASE AND THREE
PHASE PADMOUNT
TRANSFORMERS
(ANNUAL BID)**

Natalie Colberg
Purchasing

03/26/2021

MORE LEGALS

ON PAGE 11

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

ANTIQUE AND PERIOD CHAIRS

- Restored with new woven seats - Many styles and weaves available. Call (413)289-6670

DISH TV - \$59.99

For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-877-925-7371

ESTATE SALE

MOVING ESTATE SALE AGAWAM!!

80 Howard St. Fri/Sat 3/26 & 03/27 9-2
Sunday 03/28 9-1. High End Furniture/Antiques and much more. Hutch/Curio/Wicker, Grandfather Clock, Bookcase, 5Piece King Bedroom. Masks/Social Distancing.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$170.00
Seasoned cut & split \$200.00

All hardwood.

Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

!!!!FRESH CUT FIREWOOD!!!!

Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood

(413)348-4326.

MISCELLANEOUS

A PLACE FOR MOM.

The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/no obligation. CALL 1-855-799-4127

DEALING WITH WATER DAMAGE

requires immediate action. Local professionals that respond immediately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls. 1-800-506-3367

FOR SALE

DO YOU HAVE

chronic knee or back pain? If you have insurance, you may qualify for the perfect brace at little to no cost. Get yours today! Call 1-800-217-0504

INVENTORS- FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE

Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 855-380-5976 for a free idea starter guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

LIFE ALERT. 24/7.

One press of a button sends help FAST! Medical, Fire, Burglar. Even if you can't reach a phone! FREE brochure. CALL 800-457-1917

MOBILEHELP, AMERICA'S PREMIER MOBILE MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM.

Whether you're Home or Away. For Safety and Peace of Mind. No Long Term Contracts! Free Brochure! Call Today! 1-844-892-1017

OXYGEN-ANYTIME. ANYWHERE.

No tanks to refill. No deliveries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: Call 1-855-917-4693

PROMOTE YOUR PRODUCT,

service or business to 1.7 million households throughout New England. Reach 4 million potential readers quickly and inexpensively with great results. Use the Buy New England Classified Ad Network by calling (413)283-8393, classifieds@turley.com. Do they work? You are reading one of our ads now!! Visit our website to see where your ads run communitypapersne.com

STAY IN YOUR HOME longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bath-tub.

Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-866-945-3783.

FORSALE

STOP STRUGGLING ON THE STAIRS.

Give your life a lift with an ACORN STAIRLIFT! Call now for \$250. OFF your stairlift purchase and FREE DVD & brochure! 1-844-325-8610

WANTED

OLD CARPENTER TOOLS

wanted. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Vintage hunting, camping, cast iron cookware. Covid guidelines followed. Call Ken (413)433-2195.

SERVICES



*****A CALL WE HAUL

WE TAKE IT ALL

WE LOAD IT ALL

Lowest Rates,

accumulations, junk, estates,

attics, garages, appliances,

basements, demo services.

10% disc. with this ad of services.

Dumpster Rentals available for rent.

All Major CC's

CALL NOW (413)531-1936

acallwehaul@gmail.com



*****A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*****

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns, sheds, demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

SERVICES

A HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, additions, garages, sheds, porches, repair work. BBB Approved Tim 413-563-2229 Lic #053483

BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.

Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL

attics, cellars, garages cleaned. Light moving. BOBCAT WORK. Family owned/ operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

CHAIR SEAT WEAVING & refinishing

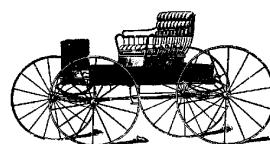
- cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS,

plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

PAINT AND PAPER

Over 25 years experience. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin 978-355-6864.



WE RENOVATE, SELL & PURCHASE

(any condition) horse drawn vehicles such as sleighs, carriages, surreys, wagons, dr's buggies, driveable or lawn ornaments. Some furniture and other restoration services available. Reasonable prices. Quality workmanship. Call (413)213-0373 for estimate and information.

DEMERS & SONS
BELCHERTOWN, MA

SERVICES

APPLIANCES

ALLEN ST. JEAN APPLIANCE REPAIR

413-562-5082 Servicing all brands of major appliances. Senior discounts available. Servicing all of western MA.

CHILD SERVICES

*NEW STATE LAW.

Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

ELECTRICIAN

DEPENDABLE ELECTRICIAN, FRIENDLY

service, installs deicing cables. Free estimates. Fully insured. Scott Winters electrician Lic. #13514-B Call (413)244-7096.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

B&D GENERAL SERVICES

Carpentry, windows, doors, roofs, gutters, floors, quality painting. Insured. References. Free Estimates. MA HIC#175887. In business 30+ yrs. 413-455-5458

CERAMIC TILE INSTALLATION

Kitchen, bath, foyers. References. Lic #086220. Please call Kevin (978)355-6864.

DELREO HOME IMPROVEMENT

for all your exterior home improvement needs. ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS, DOORS, DECKS & GUTTERS. Extensive references available, Fully Licensed & Insured in MA. & CT. Call GARY DELCAMP @ 413-569-3733

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-MODELING

Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

NAWRICKI HOME IMPROVEMENT

Kitchens, bathrooms, replacement windows & doors, roofing, siding, decks, custom woodworking, drywall. Full insured & registered 413-237-2250 Mark

WATER DAMAGE CALL JAY (413)436-5782 FOR REPAIRS

COMPLETE DRYWALL SERVICE. FINISHING, PAINTING, CEILINGS (SMOOTH OR TEXTURED). 40+ YEARS EXPERIENCE. FULLY INSURED.

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Maintenance
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal/
Clean-outs
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

DAVE'S LAWN AND GARDEN, LLC- Spring Clean-ups Tree pruning/removals Mulch/ Stone Stump grinding Senior Citizen/ Veteran's Discount Certified/ Insured

Call Dave (413)478-4212
for your free estimate.

T & S LANDSCAPING

Highest quality, lowest price. Serving the Pioneer Valley. Weekly, bi-weekly mowing, Spring, Fall and Gutter clean-ups.

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MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

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RETIRED GUY WILL

paint an average size room for \$200. Quality work. References available. Dave 413-323-6858.

PLUMBING

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING

Lic #19196 Repairs &

Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

LINC'S PLUMBING LIC. #J27222

"New Season"

"New Projects"

Call LINC'S

For Your Connection

(413)668-5299

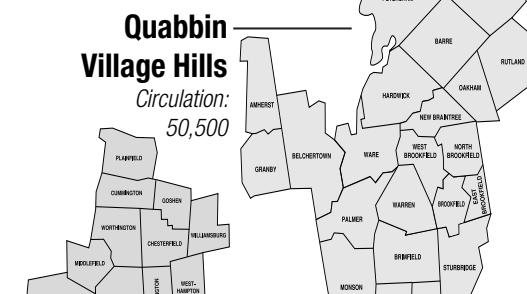
RUBBISH REMOVAL

TRASH, JUNK, CLUTTER

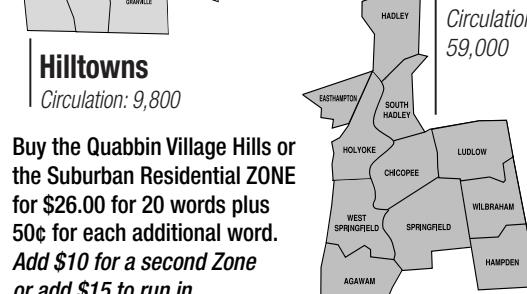
We clean out all. Prompt courteous service. Fully insured. Free estimates. Dumpster service available. DiRico Properties

(413) 530-1299

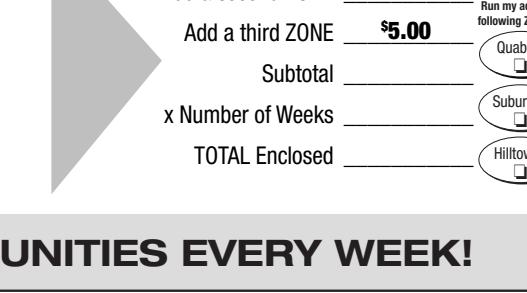
Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500



Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800



Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000



First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words _____

Add a second ZONE \$10.00 Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):

Add a third ZONE \$5.00

Subtotal _____

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Call us at 413.283.8393

SERVICES

TREE WORK

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**

TUNE-UPS

SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A&M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair. Work done at your home.
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**

AUTO

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! All Makes/ Models 2000-2019! Any Condition, Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: **1-888-513-1505.**

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT
413-219-6839

PETS

RETIRING RACING GREYHOUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION
SPAYED/NEUTERED, WORMED, SHOTS, HEARTWORM TESTED, TEETH CLEANED

MAKE A FAST FRIEND!

GREYHOUND OPTIONS INC.
CALL MARY AT 413-566-3129
OR CLAIRE AT 413-967-9088
OR GO TO
WWW.GREYHOUNDOPTIONS.ORG

HORSES

HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, Sales and Leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley **(413)532-9753** www.orionfarm.net

HELP WANTED

CONNECTICUT VALLEY ARTE-SIAN WELL COMPANY Seeking Technician with mechanical ability. We will train. Benefits included. Send resume to joe@ct-valley-arte-sianwell.com

TRUCK DRIVER - Class A CDL
- Bulk Tank - Tri Axle - Dump Trailer
- Experience Required. RB Enterprises, Ludlow **(413) 583-8393**

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PALMER 1BR, all Appliances. Open K/DR/LR, Storage/Laundry in Basement. 2nd Floor. No Smoking/Pets. 1st/Last/Security \$850.00/Month. Breton Estates **(413)283-6940**

REAL ESTATE

VACATION RENTALS

WARM WEATHER IS Year Round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolacton@aol.com for more information.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development, "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

PUBLIC NOTICES

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **April 16, 2021** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1995 Saturn SL2

VIN: 1G8ZJ5272SZ368619
Joel Albitz
733 Mosley Ave
Westfield, MA 01085

1998 Kawasaki ZX600-G

VIN: JKAZX4G18WA010989
Unknown

2001 BMW 330CI

VIN: WBABN53481JU23178
Anthony Arbuzen
27 Sycamore St
Westfield, MA 01085

2004 Ford Expedition

VIN: 1FMPU18L04LB24549
Jacqueline Charland
6 Paper St
Westfield, MA 01085

2004 Mitsubishi Endeavor

VIN: 4A4mn21s54e122739
Zaira Ortega Nieves
134 Union St
Westfield, MA 01085

2005 Lincoln LS

VIN: 1LNHM86S35Y614107
Owen Noel
425 N Main St
Leeds, MA 01053

2008 Acura RDX

VIN: 5J8TB18558A020250
Calvin Jackson
65 Grove Pl
West Haven, CT 06516

2008 Porsche Cayenne

VIN: WP1AB29P98LA54349
Ronald Michael Hence
51 Brandford Dr
Feeding Hills, MA 01001

2015 Honda Civic

VIN: 19XFB2F54FE065744
Alexander Veguilla Irtiz
1116 Pleasant St 2N
Fall River, MA 02723

2019 Kenworth Construct T680

VIN: 1XKYD49X9KJ302760
Cool Freight Express Inc
5862 Amnest Way
Sacramento, CA 95835

2020 Mitsubishi Outlander

VIN: JA4AD3A32LZ021008
Pv Holding Corp
3600 Hanger Blvd
Orlando, FL 32827

03/26, 04/02, 04/09/2021

Community Outreach Meeting Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for **Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:00 PM** at **77 Champion Drive, Chicopee, MA 01020**. The proposed Medical & Adult-Use Marijuana Cultivator & Product Manufacturer is anticipated to be located at **77 Champion Drive, Chicopee, MA 01020**. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.

03/19, 03/26/2021

TAX TIME



CHANEL BLEAU ACCOUNTING SERVICES

For Full Accounting & Tax Service
Registered Tax Return Preparer

228 West St., Ware, MA 01082

413-967-8364

Call For An Appointment



The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax preparers go to irs.gov.



588 Center Street
Ludlow, MA 01056
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AROUND THE REGION

Armenian Food Festival celebrates national cuisine

INDIAN ORCHARD – St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church members will hold their Spring Armenian Food Festival on Saturday, April 17, from 12 to 5 p.m. as a take-out only event at 135 Goodwin St.

On this day, visitors will be able to enjoy Armenian foods. Meals will be served featuring two kinds of grilled kebab – shish kebab (marinated lamb chunks) and loshi kebab (seasoned ground lamb and beef), served with rice pilaf, fasoulia (Armenian green beans), and pita bread. For lighter fare, visitors can order spinach-cheese pie. Baked goods will feature traditional Armenian breads and pastries including choerag, paklava, and khadayif.

Cash or checks accepted. To place a take-out order or for more information, call the church office (413) 543-4763 or Sima Setian Pariseau (413) 262-7251 or email at spariseau@charter.net.



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◆ Donovan's Irish Pub

Eastfield Mall, 1655 Boston Road, Springfield, MA

413-543-0791

www.donovanspub.com

CURRENT HOURS: Thurs-Sat 11am-9pm;
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◆ Venice Pizza & Grill

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413-540-8080

www.venicepizzagrill.com

OPEN: Tues-Thurs 10:45am-9:30pm
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Closed Monday

\$2.5 million and 58 river restoration projects have improved health of Connecticut River

REGION – The Connecticut River Conservancy on March 19 announced the completion of five years of work to improve the health of the Connecticut River and the Long Island Sound.

This work was possible in large part due to federal funding from the USDA's Regional Conservation Partnership Program through a grant to the Connecticut Council on Soil and Water Conservation, aimed at reducing pollution in the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound. The Connecticut River contributes over 70% of the freshwater to Long Island Sound and plays an important role in the health of the Sound.

CRC completed 58 river restoration projects covering more than 180 miles and 60 acres in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts. These projects help reduce erosion, runoff, and excess nitrogen, which causes low dissolved oxygen levels that threaten fish and other aquatic organisms. Projects included planting trees and shrubs along rivers on agricultural lands to slow runoff and filter pollutants from water before it enters rivers, berm and dam removals that restore natural river flows and decrease erosion during floods, and streambank stabilization work that helps keep soil in place rather than polluting rivers.

"We are very pleased to have been able to complete this many restoration projects in our local communities to improve the health of both the Connecticut River basin and Long Island Sound," said CRC Executive Director Andrew Fisk. "While this grant program may be over, CRC will continue to work with landowners on restoration projects on their land that will improve our rivers and protect their investment in productive farm and forest land."

"We applaud the efforts of CRC and the local landowners who partnered to implement conservation projects that will protect and improve water quality and instream habitat for many generations to come," said Vicky Drew, Vermont State Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

The federal funding, which CRC matched dollar for dollar with other grants and private donations, was used to complete engineering designs, restoration plans, and permitting necessary for project implementation. CRC worked over the five-year grant period to help local landowners sign up for USDA NRCS programs that helped fund implementation of the restoration projects. CRC was able to secure additional grant funds (used as

match) to help reduce or eliminate landowner out-of-pocket expenses. In all, more than \$2.5 million was invested over the five years in these 58 river restoration projects and supported many local businesses including engineering firms, construction companies, nurseries, and more.

"Through RCPP, NRCS co-invests with partners like the Connecticut River Conservancy to implement projects that offer innovative solutions to conservation challenges and provide measurable improvements tied to the natural resource concerns they address," said Dan Wright, Massachusetts State Conservationist for NRCS. "Through their contributions, our partners add value by expanding our ability to address natural resource concerns on farm-by-farm, watershed, and regional levels."

"NRCS is very pleased to have a partner such as CRC and the numerous landowners involved to complete 58 projects over the last five years that will have a lasting impact on the water quality of the Connecticut River basin and Long Island Sound," said New Hampshire NRCS State Conservationist Becky Ross. "With CRC's partnership, we were able to have a much larger impact in a shorter amount of time."

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